Board Exam Desk

Criminology Reviewer

Criminology Licensure Examination | PRC | 120 original questions

2026 Edition | Updated November 2026

Original board-style practice questions with an answer key.

Practice questions

Criminal Jurisprudence, Procedure and Evidence

1. Rolando was walking home when Edgar, without any warning, swung a bolo at him. Rolando parried and struck Edgar with a piece of wood, injuring him. For Rolando to successfully claim self-defense, which element must be present above all others?

A. Rolando being related to Edgar by blood
B. Unlawful aggression on the part of Edgar
C. Rolando having surrendered to the police
D. Edgar having a prior criminal record

2. Lito shot Ben in the chest, intending to kill him. Ben would have died from the wound, but a surgical team saved him through immediate operation. What crime did Lito commit?

A. Attempted homicide
B. Consummated homicide
C. Frustrated homicide
D. Serious physical injuries only

3. Intending to kill his enemy, Jun fired several shots into the man as he lay on his bed. An autopsy later showed the man had died of a heart attack two hours earlier. What is Jun's criminal liability?

A. Consummated murder
B. Frustrated homicide
C. No liability at all
D. An impossible crime

4. Three men agreed to rob a store. Only one of them entered and took the money while the other two acted as lookouts outside. Under the rule on conspiracy, how is liability determined?

A. Only the man who entered the store is liable
B. The lookouts are liable only as accessories
C. All three are liable as principals, since the act of one is the act of all
D. The lookouts are liable only as accomplices

5. After his brother killed a neighbor, Arman helped bury the body in a remote area so it would not be discovered. Apart from any family relationship exemption, Arman's participation falls under which classification?

A. Principal by direct participation
B. Accessory
C. Principal by inducement
D. Accomplice

6. During a family reunion, a guest was suddenly stabbed from behind while he was eating and had no means to defend himself. Which qualifying circumstance best describes the manner of attack?

A. Evident premeditation
B. Abuse of superior strength
C. Ignominy
D. Treachery

7. A man threw a hand grenade into a crowded waiting shed, killing four people with that single act. How is the offense treated under Article 48 of the Revised Penal Code?

A. As a compound crime, imposing the penalty for the most serious crime in its maximum period
B. As four separate murders with four separate penalties
C. As a continuing crime punished by the lowest penalty
D. As a single homicide because only one act was done

8. Under the Revised Penal Code, within what period do light offenses prescribe?

A. Six months
B. One year
C. Two months
D. Five years

9. Police officers on patrol personally saw a man snatch a bag from a passenger and run. They chased and caught him a short distance away. What best describes the legality of the arrest without a warrant?

A. Invalid, because a warrant is always required
B. Valid only if the victim files a complaint first
C. Invalid, because the man was arrested after running
D. Valid, because the offense was committed in the officers' presence

10. Under the 1987 Constitution, who must personally determine probable cause before a search warrant or warrant of arrest is issued?

A. The judge
B. The investigating police officer
C. The city or provincial prosecutor
D. The barangay captain

11. When arraigned, the accused stood silent and refused to enter any plea despite repeated questions from the court. What should the court do?

A. Enter a plea of guilty for the accused
B. Dismiss the case for lack of a plea
C. Enter a plea of not guilty for the accused
D. Cite the accused in contempt and suspend trial indefinitely

12. Before conviction, bail is a matter of right except when the accused is charged with an offense punishable by reclusion perpetua or life imprisonment and which condition is met?

A. The accused is a first-time offender
B. The complainant objects to bail
C. The accused has no permanent address
D. Evidence of guilt is strong

13. Mortally wounded and aware he was about to die, a victim told a responding barangay tanod who had stabbed him and why. He died minutes later. How is his statement treated in court?

A. Inadmissible because it is hearsay
B. Admissible only if written and signed
C. Admissible only against the tanod who heard it
D. Admissible as a dying declaration

14. In a criminal prosecution, what quantum of evidence is required to convict the accused?

A. Proof beyond reasonable doubt
B. Preponderance of evidence
C. Substantial evidence
D. Clear and convincing evidence

15. An accused was acquitted of theft by a competent court after a valid arraignment and trial. The prosecution later refiled the same charge based on the same act. What defense is available to the accused?

A. Prescription of the offense
B. Double jeopardy
C. Lack of jurisdiction over the person
D. Prejudicial question

16. In criminal law, the term corpus delicti refers to which of the following?

A. The dead body of the victim
B. The weapon used in the commission of the crime
C. The written confession of the accused
D. The fact that a crime has actually been committed

17. Under the Rules of Criminal Procedure, where should a criminal action generally be instituted and tried?

A. In the court nearest the residence of the accused
B. In any court chosen by the offended party
C. In the court of the place where the offense or any of its essential ingredients occurred
D. In the court where the arresting officers are assigned

18. A prosecutor files an accusation in writing charging a person with an offense, subscribed by the prosecutor and filed with the court. What is this pleading called?

A. Information
B. Complaint
C. Affidavit of desistance
D. Subpoena

19. Intending only to slap Rico, Dodong struck him; Rico lost balance, hit his head on a concrete step and died. What principle makes Dodong liable for the death?

A. A person is liable only for the result he intended
B. Accidental death always exempts the offender
C. Liability arises only when a deadly weapon is used
D. One committing a felony is liable for its direct and natural consequences even if different from what he intended

20. After stabbing a man, Carlo went to the police station the next morning, before any warrant was issued, and admitted the act to the desk officer. Which mitigating circumstance may he invoke?

A. Passion or obfuscation
B. Voluntary surrender
C. Sufficient provocation
D. Incomplete self-defense

Law Enforcement Administration

21. Under Republic Act 6975, how is the Philippine National Police characterized?

A. Military in character and regional in scope
B. Local in scope and semi-military in character
C. National in scope and civilian in character
D. Civilian in character and municipal in scope

22. Which body exercises administrative control and operational supervision over the Philippine National Police?

A. Department of National Defense
B. Commission on Human Rights
C. National Police Commission
D. Civil Service Commission

23. A patrol officer receives conflicting orders from the station's investigation chief and from his own shift supervisor. Which organizational principle is being violated?

A. Span of control
B. Unity of command
C. Delegation of authority
D. Functional specialization

24. A newly appointed station commander finds that one sergeant is directly supervising 25 patrol officers and cannot monitor them effectively. Which principle should be addressed?

A. Span of control
B. Unity of objective
C. Chain of command
D. Line and staff separation

25. Which of the following is a line function in a police organization?

A. Personnel recruitment
B. Budget preparation
C. Patrol operations
D. Training curriculum design

26. The Kansas City Preventive Patrol Experiment produced which notable finding?

A. Varying levels of routine random patrol had no significant effect on crime
B. Doubling patrol cars cut crime in half
C. Foot patrol tripled the arrest rate
D. Removing patrol entirely caused crime to soar

27. A police unit identifies a recurring burglary pattern, studies its causes, implements a tailored response, and then measures results. What model is being followed?

A. Intelligence cycle
B. Incident command system
C. SARA model of problem-oriented policing
D. Zero-tolerance enforcement

28. An informant who has usually been reliable in the past gives information that is probably true. Using the standard alphanumeric evaluation system, how is it rated?

A. B-2
B. A-1
C. C-3
D. B-4

29. In the intelligence cycle, the stage in which collected raw information is recorded, evaluated and interpreted is called what?

A. Planning and direction
B. Dissemination
C. Processing
D. Collection

30. A clerk with a secret clearance asks to read a classified file unrelated to his assignment. The custodian refuses. Which security principle justifies the refusal?

A. Compartmentation of personnel
B. Need-to-know principle
C. Principle of least resistance
D. Rule of document marking

31. Which security classification applies to information whose unauthorized disclosure would cause exceptionally grave damage to the nation?

A. Secret
B. Top secret
C. Confidential
D. Restricted

32. A warehouse security plan calls for a cleared, unobstructed strip of land along both sides of the perimeter fence. What is the main purpose of this feature?

A. To provide parking space for delivery trucks
B. To serve as a fire assembly area
C. To reduce the cost of protective lighting
D. To give guards a clear view and deny intruders concealment

33. According to a principle attributed to Sir Robert Peel, the true test of police efficiency is which of the following?

A. The number of arrests made
B. The visible presence of police action
C. The size of the police budget
D. The absence of crime and disorder

34. A city redesigns a dark alley by adding lighting, trimming hedges and placing windows facing the path so residents can see passers-by. Which CPTED element is mainly applied?

A. Natural surveillance
B. Target hardening
C. Territorial reinforcement
D. Access control

35. A police chief holds weekly meetings where commanders review timely crime maps and are held accountable for reducing crime in their areas. Which management approach is this?

A. Team policing
B. CompStat
C. Watchman style
D. Unity of command

36. Which advantage is most commonly associated with foot patrol compared with automobile patrol?

A. Closer contact and rapport with the community
B. Faster response to distant emergencies
C. Wider area covered per officer
D. Ability to carry more equipment

37. Under the provisions of RA 6975 as amended, city and municipal mayors are deputized as representatives of which body in their localities?

A. Department of Justice
B. Philippine Public Safety College
C. Commission on Audit
D. National Police Commission

38. Surveillance agents are assigned to observe a pawnshop and its surroundings for several days before a planned operation. Observing a place in this way is commonly called what?

A. Tailing
B. Roping
C. Debriefing
D. Casing

39. Which plan describes a police organization's long-range goals and broad direction over several years?

A. Tactical plan
B. Strategic plan
C. Operational plan
D. Contingency plan

40. Interpol assists member countries in locating a person wanted for prosecution by issuing which type of notice?

A. Red notice
B. Yellow notice
C. Black notice
D. Green notice

Criminalistics

41. Which fingerprint pattern type is the most common in the general population?

A. Loop
B. Plain arch
C. Whorl
D. Tented arch

42. A fingerprint examiner observes a pattern with two deltas and at least one ridge making a complete circuit. How is the pattern classified?

A. Whorl
B. Ulnar loop
C. Radial loop
D. Plain arch

43. In a loop pattern, ridge counting is done between which two points?

A. The core and the recurve
B. The delta and the core
C. The two deltas
D. The type lines and the shoulders

44. A latent print must be developed on a sheet of bond paper recovered from a crime scene. Which method is most appropriate for this porous surface?

A. Dusting with black powder
B. Ninhydrin
C. Cyanoacrylate fuming only
D. Small particle reagent

45. The idea that every contact between two objects results in a transfer of material is known as what?

A. Galton's law of individuality
B. Henry's classification rule
C. Locard's exchange principle
D. Bertillon's anthropometric principle

46. Comparing the pore openings along the friction ridges for identification is called what?

A. Edgeoscopy
B. Poroscopy
C. Dactylomancy
D. Podoscopy

47. Two fired bullets share the same caliber and the same number and direction of twist of rifling. These features are best described as what?

A. Individual characteristics
B. Accidental characteristics
C. Class characteristics
D. Wound characteristics

48. The raised portions between the grooves inside a rifled barrel are called what?

A. Lands
B. Breech faces
C. Chambers
D. Shoulders

49. A firearms examiner finds that a microscopic striation pattern on a test bullet lines up with that on the evidence bullet. Which instrument was most likely used?

A. Comparison microscope
B. Stereo dissecting microscope
C. Polarizing microscope
D. Electron spin microscope

50. A gunshot wound on the skull shows a star-shaped tear with soot and searing inside the wound. What range of fire does this most strongly suggest?

A. Distant fire
B. Intermediate range with stippling
C. Contact fire
D. Ricochet from a far distance

51. A presumptive field test for blood turns pink when reduced phenolphthalin reagent and hydrogen peroxide are applied. What is the test?

A. Kastle-Meyer test
B. Takayama test
C. Marquis test
D. Florence test

52. Investigators need to detect traces of blood that were cleaned from a tiled floor in a dark room. Which reagent is commonly sprayed for this purpose?

A. Iodine fumes
B. Silver nitrate
C. Luminol
D. Ninhydrin

53. The stiffening of body muscles after death that usually begins within a few hours and later disappears is called what?

A. Livor mortis
B. Rigor mortis
C. Algor mortis
D. Cadaveric spasm

54. A body is found lying face down, yet the purplish discoloration is concentrated on the back and does not blanch on pressure. What does this most likely indicate?

A. The body was moved after the lividity had become fixed
B. The person died of drowning
C. The death occurred less than an hour ago
D. The person died from a gunshot wound to the back

55. In polygraph testing, which component records changes in the subject's breathing?

A. Galvanograph
B. Cardiosphygmograph
C. Pneumograph
D. Kymograph

56. A document examiner needs authentic writings of a suspect to compare with a disputed signature. What are these known writings called?

A. Questioned specimens
B. Holographs
C. Palimpsests
D. Standards or exemplars

57. A forger places a genuine signature under a thin sheet and carefully follows its outline. What type of forgery is this?

A. Simulated forgery
B. Traced forgery
C. Simple forgery
D. Spurious signature

58. Which light source is commonly used to reveal chemical erasures and alterations in a document?

A. Ordinary tungsten light
B. Sodium vapor light
C. Ultraviolet light
D. Red safelight

59. In forensic photography, decreasing the lens aperture, such as moving from f/4 to f/16, has what effect?

A. Decreases the depth of field
B. Increases the amount of light entering
C. Shortens the focal length of the lens
D. Increases the depth of field

60. A DNA profile from a crime scene matches two brothers equally. Which relationship best explains this result?

A. They are half-brothers
B. They are fraternal twins
C. They are identical twins
D. They share the same blood type only

Crime Detection and Investigation

61. The three tools of an investigator in gathering facts are commonly summarized as which of the following?

A. Inspection, intuition and intelligence
B. Interview, inquest and indictment
C. Information, interrogation and instrumentation
D. Identification, isolation and imprisonment

62. A team must search an open field for a spent cartridge. Searchers line up shoulder to shoulder and walk parallel lanes, then repeat at right angles. Which method is this?

A. Grid search
B. Spiral search
C. Wheel search
D. Zone search

63. Which record documents every person who handled a piece of evidence from collection until presentation in court?

A. Incident log
B. Spot report
C. Booking sheet
D. Chain of custody

64. A suspect under custodial investigation wants to waive his right to counsel. Under RA 7438, what is required for the waiver to be valid?

A. It may be made orally before any police officer
B. It must be in writing and made in the presence of counsel
C. It must be notarized by any notary public
D. It must be witnessed by the arresting officer's superior

65. An investigator questions a cooperative witness who saw a hit-and-run. What best describes this process?

A. Interrogation
B. Inquest
C. Custodial investigation
D. Interview

66. Under Section 21 of RA 9165 as amended, immediately after seizure, the apprehending team must inventory and photograph the drugs in the presence of the accused or his counsel, an elected public official, and whom else?

A. The barangay health worker
B. A representative of the PDEA Academy
C. A representative of the National Prosecution Service or the media
D. Any relative of the arresting officer

67. Police posed as buyers, and a suspect who was already selling shabu handed over a sachet in exchange for marked money. What is the legal character of this operation?

A. Unlawful instigation
B. Valid entrapment
C. Illegal search
D. Inducement that exempts the seller

68. In fire investigation, a V-shaped burn pattern on a wall most often helps the investigator identify what?

A. The exact time the fire ended
B. The point of origin of the fire
C. The type of insurance policy involved
D. The identity of the arsonist

69. Several separate fires were set in different rooms of a house at about the same time. What does this condition most strongly suggest?

A. The fire was caused by faulty wiring
B. The fire was intentionally set
C. The fire started from a single cigarette
D. The fire was caused by lightning

70. A traffic investigator measures the length of tire skid marks left by a vehicle before a collision. This measurement is mainly used to estimate what?

A. The age of the driver
B. The weight of the cargo
C. The vehicle's speed before braking
D. The color of the vehicle

71. The distinctive method a burglar repeatedly uses, such as entering only through bathroom windows at noon, is called what?

A. Corpus delicti
B. Res gestae
C. Locus criminis
D. Modus operandi

72. While serving a valid search warrant for firearms, officers see a bag of marijuana lying on a table in open view. Which doctrine allows its seizure?

A. Hot pursuit doctrine
B. Plain view doctrine
C. Stop-and-frisk doctrine
D. Fruit of the poisonous tree doctrine

73. A witness cannot identify a suspect from photographs but can describe him in detail. Which technique would best produce a likeness for a wanted poster?

A. Rogues gallery review
B. Composite or cartographic sketch
C. Polygraph examination
D. Show-up confrontation

74. To be fair, a police line-up should include the suspect together with which kind of persons?

A. Persons who are clearly older than the suspect
B. Police officers in uniform
C. Persons of a different sex from the suspect
D. Persons of similar general appearance to the suspect

75. A person was lawfully arrested without a warrant for a serious offense. Before filing in court, the prosecutor summarily determines whether the arrest was valid and whether the person should remain detained. What is this proceeding called?

A. Inquest
B. Preliminary conference
C. Arraignment
D. Pre-trial

76. In a case for illegal possession of dangerous drugs, what constitutes the corpus delicti?

A. The marked money used
B. The dangerous drug itself
C. The arresting officer's affidavit
D. The laboratory request form

77. On arriving at a homicide scene, what should be the first concern of the first responding officer after ensuring safety?

A. Rendering aid to any victim and securing the scene
B. Interviewing the media
C. Collecting fingerprints personally
D. Releasing the identity of the suspect

78. A surveillance subject notices and confirms that he is being followed by an agent. In surveillance terminology, the agent is said to have been what?

A. Made or burned
B. Roped
C. Cased
D. Debriefed

79. Following a robbery, police pursue a suspect based on their personal knowledge of facts indicating he had just committed the offense. Under Rule 113, which warrantless arrest situation applies?

A. In flagrante delicto arrest
B. Arrest of an escaped prisoner
C. Hot pursuit arrest
D. Citizen's arrest by the victim

80. An extrajudicial confession was obtained from a suspect who was not informed of his right to remain silent and had no counsel. What is its status as evidence?

A. Admissible if he signed it
B. Admissible if witnessed by two officers
C. Admissible if read back to him
D. Inadmissible against him

Criminal Sociology, Ethics and Human Relations

81. Which theorist argued that some criminals are atavistic, or biological throwbacks to an earlier stage of human evolution?

A. Cesare Lombroso
B. Cesare Beccaria
C. Emile Durkheim
D. Edwin Sutherland

82. A legislator argues that penalties should be certain, swift and proportionate so that rational people will be deterred from crime. This view is rooted in which school?

A. Classical school
B. Positivist school
C. Chicago school
D. Neoclassical labeling school

83. A jobless man who wants an expensive lifestyle turns to selling stolen phones to achieve it. In Merton's strain theory, which mode of adaptation is this?

A. Ritualism
B. Retreatism
C. Conformity
D. Innovation

84. A teenager learns techniques and favorable attitudes toward theft through close association with older friends. Which theory best explains this?

A. Containment theory
B. Differential association theory
C. Somatotype theory
D. Deterrence theory

85. Hirschi's social bond theory identifies four elements of the bond. Which of the following is one of them?

A. Anomie
B. Atavism
C. Attachment
D. Opportunity

86. Under routine activity theory, crime is likely when a motivated offender and a suitable target meet in the absence of which element?

A. A criminal subculture
B. A broken family
C. A weak economy
D. A capable guardian

87. After being publicly branded a thief and excluded by his community, a youth begins to see himself as a criminal and commits more offenses. Lemert would call these later acts what?

A. Primary deviance
B. Tertiary prevention
C. Retreatist deviance
D. Secondary deviance

88. A shoplifter says, "The big mall will not miss a few items; nobody is really hurt." Which technique of neutralization is he using?

A. Denial of responsibility
B. Denial of injury
C. Condemnation of the condemners
D. Appeal to higher loyalties

89. Shaw and McKay found that delinquency remained high in certain inner-city zones regardless of which ethnic group lived there. Which theory grew from this research?

A. Psychoanalytic theory
B. Biological trait theory
C. Social disorganization theory
D. Rational choice theory

90. According to Sheldon's somatotype theory, which body type was most associated with delinquency?

A. Endomorph
B. Ectomorph
C. Mesomorph
D. Dysmorph

91. Wilson and Kelling argued that leaving signs of disorder like graffiti and broken windows unaddressed invites more serious crime. What is this idea called?

A. Strain theory
B. Conflict theory
C. Labeling theory
D. Broken windows theory

92. Under RA 9344 as amended, a 14-year-old who commits theft is treated in what way?

A. Criminally liable and sentenced as an adult
B. Criminally liable but with a privileged mitigating circumstance
C. Exempt from criminal liability but subject to an intervention program
D. Exempt only if he did not act with discernment

93. A 16-year-old commits an offense and is found to have acted with discernment. Under RA 9344, what is the consequence?

A. He is automatically exempt from all liability
B. He may be held liable and undergo diversion or proceedings under the law
C. He is tried and punished as an adult without any privileges
D. His parents serve the penalty in his place

94. Which law currently governs the practice of criminology in the Philippines and repealed the earlier criminology law, RA 6506?

A. Republic Act 6975
B. Republic Act 9344
C. Republic Act 9165
D. Republic Act 11131

95. A police officer accepts free meals daily from a restaurant owner, then later begins giving the owner's illegal parking a pass. This progression illustrates which ethical concept?

A. Noble cause corruption
B. Whistle-blowing
C. Slippery slope of gratuities
D. Discretionary immunity

96. An officer plants evidence on a suspect he sincerely believes is guilty to secure a conviction. What is this form of misconduct called?

A. Grass eating
B. Meat eating for profit
C. Noble cause corruption
D. Misfeasance by omission

97. According to Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which needs must generally be satisfied first?

A. Esteem needs
B. Physiological needs
C. Self-actualization needs
D. Belongingness needs

98. The scientific study of victims, including their relationship to offenders and their role in crime, is called what?

A. Penology
B. Criminalistics
C. Victimology
D. Phrenology

99. Cloward and Ohlin argued that youths form different types of gangs depending on access to illegitimate means in their neighborhood. Which theory is this?

A. Differential opportunity theory
B. Social bond theory
C. Self-control theory
D. Biosocial theory

100. Durkheim used which term to describe a state of normlessness in society that can lead to deviance?

A. Atavism
B. Stigma
C. Anomie
D. Recidivism

Correctional Administration

101. Which agency manages district, city and municipal jails in the Philippines?

A. Bureau of Corrections
B. Parole and Probation Administration
C. Provincial government
D. Bureau of Jail Management and Penology

102. A person convicted and sentenced to a prison term of more than three years is generally committed to which institution?

A. A national penitentiary under the Bureau of Corrections
B. A municipal jail under the BJMP
C. A provincial jail under the governor
D. A barangay detention facility

103. Under the Probation Law as amended, an offender is disqualified from probation if sentenced to a maximum term exceeding how many years?

A. Six years
B. Three years
C. Eight years
D. Twelve years

104. Probation differs from parole mainly in which respect?

A. Probation is granted by the President, while parole is granted by the court
B. Probation is granted by the court instead of imprisonment, while parole is release after serving part of the sentence
C. Probation applies only to drug offenders, while parole applies to all
D. Probation follows full service of sentence, while parole follows acquittal

105. Under the Indeterminate Sentence Law, a prisoner becomes eligible for parole upon serving which part of the sentence?

A. The maximum term
B. One-half of the maximum term
C. The minimum term
D. Two-thirds of the maximum term

106. Which form of executive clemency requires the concurrence of a majority of all members of Congress?

A. Amnesty
B. Absolute pardon
C. Commutation of sentence
D. Reprieve

107. A prison system kept inmates in solitary cells day and night to work, read the Bible and reflect in silence. Which system is described?

A. Auburn system
B. Elmira system
C. Irish system
D. Pennsylvania system

108. Which prison system let inmates work together in silence during the day but confined them to separate cells at night?

A. Pennsylvania system
B. Auburn system
C. Borstal system
D. Cottage system

109. Alexander Maconochie introduced a scheme at Norfolk Island where inmates earned credits through work and good conduct to shorten their confinement. What was it called?

A. Ticket of leave system
B. Mark system
C. Lease system
D. Trusty system

110. Walter Crofton's Irish system is best known for introducing what practice in its final stage?

A. Lifetime solitary confinement
B. Corporal punishment by whipping
C. Transportation to penal colonies
D. Conditional release on a ticket of leave under supervision

111. Which English reformer, author of The State of the Prisons, campaigned for sanitary and humane prison conditions in the eighteenth century?

A. Zebulon Brockway
B. Jeremy Bentham
C. Manuel Montesinos
D. John Howard

112. Sentencing an offender to imprisonment primarily to physically prevent him from committing crimes against the public during confinement reflects which purpose of punishment?

A. Retribution
B. Incapacitation
C. Restoration
D. General deterrence

113. A program brings together the offender, the victim and the community to repair the harm caused by the crime. Which approach is this?

A. Retributive justice
B. Selective incapacitation
C. Shock incarceration
D. Restorative justice

114. Inmates in a facility live in a structured community where peers confront and support one another to overcome drug dependence. Which treatment model is used?

A. Shock probation
B. Work release
C. Halfway house
D. Therapeutic community

115. A newly committed prisoner is first sent to a unit for medical, psychological and social evaluation before being assigned to a facility. What is this unit?

A. Maximum security compound
B. Halfway house
C. Visiting area
D. Reception and diagnostic center

116. Under the Probation Law as amended, filing an application for probation has what effect on the right to appeal?

A. It is deemed a waiver of the right to appeal
B. It suspends the period to appeal indefinitely
C. It automatically elevates the case to the appellate court
D. It has no effect on the right to appeal

117. While serving a final sentence for robbery, an inmate kills a fellow prisoner. Which special aggravating circumstance applies under the Revised Penal Code?

A. Quasi-recidivism
B. Habitual delinquency
C. Reiteracion
D. Ignominy

118. Under the Revised Penal Code, a person found guilty of theft for the third time within ten years of his last release or conviction for theft is considered what?

A. A habitual delinquent
B. A quasi-recidivist
C. A first-time offender
D. A probationer

119. The physical counting of inmates at scheduled and unscheduled times in a jail is mainly intended for what purpose?

A. To verify that all inmates are accounted for and detect escapes
B. To determine the inmates' daily meal budget
C. To schedule visits from relatives
D. To compute good conduct time allowances

120. A provincial jail, which holds offenders serving short sentences in the province, is administered by which authority?

A. The Bureau of Corrections
B. The provincial government
C. The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
D. The Department of Social Welfare and Development

Answer key

Criminology

1. B. Unlawful aggression on the part of Edgar

Unlawful aggression is the indispensable element of self-defense; without it, there is nothing to repel and the defense cannot prosper, whether complete or incomplete.

2. C. Frustrated homicide

All acts of execution that would produce death were performed, but death did not result for reasons independent of the offender's will, which makes the felony frustrated.

3. D. An impossible crime

Under Article 4 of the Revised Penal Code, an act against persons that would have been a crime but for its inherent impossibility, here a dead victim, is an impossible crime.

4. C. All three are liable as principals, since the act of one is the act of all

Once conspiracy is proven, each conspirator is equally liable for the crime agreed upon regardless of the specific role performed.

5. B. Accessory

Concealing the body of the crime to prevent its discovery, done after the crime was committed, is a mode of participation of an accessory under Article 19.

6. D. Treachery

Treachery exists when the means of execution ensure the commission of the crime without risk to the offender from any defense the unsuspecting victim might make.

7. A. As a compound crime, imposing the penalty for the most serious crime in its maximum period

When a single act produces two or more grave or less grave felonies, Article 48 imposes the penalty for the most serious offense in its maximum period.

8. C. Two months

Article 90 of the Revised Penal Code provides that light offenses prescribe in two months.

9. D. Valid, because the offense was committed in the officers' presence

Rule 113, Section 5(a) allows a warrantless arrest when the person has committed, is committing, or is attempting to commit an offense in the presence of the arresting officer.

10. A. The judge

Article III, Section 2 requires probable cause to be determined personally by the judge after examining the complainant and witnesses under oath.

11. C. Enter a plea of not guilty for the accused

Under Rule 116, when the accused refuses to plead, a plea of not guilty shall be entered for him.

12. D. Evidence of guilt is strong

Bail may be denied before conviction only for capital or reclusion perpetua offenses when the evidence of guilt is strong, as determined in a bail hearing.

13. D. Admissible as a dying declaration

A statement by a dying person, made under consciousness of impending death and concerning the cause and circumstances of his death, is an exception to the hearsay rule.

14. A. Proof beyond reasonable doubt

The constitutional presumption of innocence can only be overcome by proof beyond reasonable doubt.

15. B. Double jeopardy

Once an accused has been acquitted under a valid complaint or information by a competent court after a plea, he cannot again be prosecuted for the same offense.

16. D. The fact that a crime has actually been committed

Corpus delicti is the body or substance of the crime, meaning proof that a specific offense was actually committed by someone.

17. C. In the court of the place where the offense or any of its essential ingredients occurred

Venue in criminal cases is jurisdictional, and the action is instituted where the offense or any of its essential elements took place.

18. A. Information

An information is an accusation in writing subscribed by the prosecutor and filed with the court, while a complaint is sworn to by the offended party or peace officer.

19. D. One committing a felony is liable for its direct and natural consequences even if different from what he intended

Article 4, paragraph 1 holds the offender liable for all the natural and logical consequences of his felonious act, even if the wrong done differs from that intended.

20. B. Voluntary surrender

Voluntary surrender requires that the offender was not yet arrested, surrendered to a person in authority or its agent, and did so spontaneously.

21. C. National in scope and civilian in character

RA 6975 established the PNP as a police force that is national in scope and civilian in character.

22. C. National Police Commission

Under RA 6975, the National Police Commission was created to exercise administrative control and operational supervision over the PNP.

23. B. Unity of command

Unity of command requires that each member report to only one superior, avoiding conflicting instructions.

24. A. Span of control

Span of control refers to the number of subordinates a supervisor can effectively direct, and an excessive number weakens supervision.

25. C. Patrol operations

Line functions directly accomplish the police mission, such as patrol and investigation, while staff functions support them.

26. A. Varying levels of routine random patrol had no significant effect on crime

The study found that increasing or decreasing routine preventive patrol did not significantly change crime levels or citizen fear.

27. C. SARA model of problem-oriented policing

SARA stands for Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment, the core process of problem-oriented policing.

28. A. B-2

In the standard system, B means usually reliable as to the source and 2 means probably true as to the information.

29. C. Processing

Processing converts raw information into intelligence through recording, evaluation and interpretation before it is disseminated.

30. B. Need-to-know principle

Clearance alone is not enough; access to classified matter is granted only to those whose official duties require it.

31. B. Top secret

Top secret is the highest classification, reserved for matter whose unauthorized disclosure would cause exceptionally grave damage.

32. D. To give guards a clear view and deny intruders concealment

Clear zones along perimeter barriers improve observation and remove cover that intruders could use.

33. D. The absence of crime and disorder

Peel emphasized that police effectiveness is measured by the absence of crime and disorder, not by visible evidence of police activity.

34. A. Natural surveillance

Natural surveillance arranges physical features so that legitimate users can easily observe the space, discouraging offenders.

35. B. CompStat

CompStat combines timely crime data, mapping, rapid deployment and command accountability in regular strategy meetings.

36. A. Closer contact and rapport with the community

Foot patrol fosters personal contact with residents and familiarity with the beat, though it covers less ground.

37. D. National Police Commission

The law deputizes local chief executives as NAPOLCOM representatives, giving them operational supervision over local police.

38. D. Casing

Casing is the reconnaissance or surveillance of a building, place or area, while tailing refers to following a person.

39. B. Strategic plan

Strategic plans set long-term goals and organizational direction; tactical and operational plans address specific, shorter-term activities.

40. A. Red notice

A red notice seeks the location and arrest of a wanted person pending extradition or similar legal action.

41. A. Loop

Loops make up the majority of fingerprint patterns, followed by whorls and then arches.

42. A. Whorl

Whorls generally have two deltas with a recurving ridge in front of each, whereas loops have one delta and arches have none.

43. B. The delta and the core

The ridge count of a loop is the number of ridges crossing an imaginary line drawn from the delta to the core.

44. B. Ninhydrin

Ninhydrin reacts with amino acids absorbed into porous surfaces like paper, producing a purple print.

45. C. Locard's exchange principle

Edmond Locard stated that whenever two objects come in contact, there is a mutual exchange of traces, the basis of trace evidence.

46. B. Poroscopy

Poroscopy, developed by Locard, uses the size, shape and arrangement of sweat pores for identification.

47. C. Class characteristics

Caliber and rifling specifications are shared by all firearms of a make and model, so they narrow down but do not individualize a weapon.

48. A. Lands

Rifling consists of alternating grooves cut into the bore and the raised lands between them, which impart spin to the bullet.

49. A. Comparison microscope

The comparison microscope places two specimens side by side in one view, allowing striation marks to be matched.

50. C. Contact fire

In contact wounds over bone, gases expand beneath the skin and tear it in a stellate pattern, depositing soot inside the wound.

51. A. Kastle-Meyer test

The Kastle-Meyer test uses phenolphthalin and hydrogen peroxide; the peroxidase-like activity of hemoglobin produces a pink color.

52. C. Luminol

Luminol produces chemiluminescence when it reacts with the iron in hemoglobin, revealing faint or cleaned bloodstains in darkness.

53. B. Rigor mortis

Rigor mortis results from chemical changes in muscle after death, producing progressive stiffening that eventually resolves.

54. A. The body was moved after the lividity had become fixed

Livor mortis settles in dependent areas; fixed lividity inconsistent with the body's position suggests it was repositioned later.

55. C. Pneumograph

The pneumograph tubes placed around the chest and abdomen record respiratory changes.

56. D. Standards or exemplars

Standards, also called exemplars, are writings of known origin used for comparison with questioned documents.

57. B. Traced forgery

Traced forgery copies a genuine signature by following its lines, often leaving tremor, blunt ends and pen lifts.

58. C. Ultraviolet light

Ultraviolet light causes inks and treated paper areas to fluoresce differently, exposing erasures not visible in normal light.

59. D. Increases the depth of field

A smaller aperture (larger f-number) admits less light but keeps a greater range of distances in acceptable focus.

60. C. They are identical twins

Identical twins arise from one fertilized egg and share essentially the same nuclear DNA profile, unlike other siblings.

61. C. Information, interrogation and instrumentation

The classic three I's of investigation are information, interrogation and instrumentation.

62. A. Grid search

The grid method is a double strip search done in two perpendicular directions for more thorough coverage.

63. D. Chain of custody

The chain of custody shows the continuous possession of evidence, preserving its integrity and admissibility.

64. B. It must be in writing and made in the presence of counsel

RA 7438 requires that a waiver of the rights of a person under custodial investigation be in writing and signed in the presence of counsel.

65. D. Interview

An interview is the questioning of a person believed to have information willingly given, while interrogation targets suspects or reluctant persons.

66. C. A representative of the National Prosecution Service or the media

As amended by RA 10640, the required witnesses are the accused or counsel, an elected public official, and a representative of the National Prosecution Service or the media.

67. B. Valid entrapment

Entrapment merely provides an opportunity to a person already predisposed to commit the crime and is lawful, unlike instigation where police create the criminal intent.

68. B. The point of origin of the fire

Fire tends to burn upward and outward, so the apex of the V pattern typically points toward the area where the fire started.

69. B. The fire was intentionally set

Multiple, unconnected points of origin are a classic indicator of incendiarism.

70. C. The vehicle's speed before braking

Skid mark length, together with the road's drag factor, allows the investigator to estimate the vehicle's minimum speed.

71. D. Modus operandi

Modus operandi is an offender's characteristic method of operation, useful for linking crimes and identifying suspects.

72. B. Plain view doctrine

Objects in plain view of an officer who has a right to be in that position and whose incriminating nature is immediately apparent may be seized.

73. B. Composite or cartographic sketch

A composite sketch is drawn from a witness's description and is used when no photograph of the suspect is available.

74. D. Persons of similar general appearance to the suspect

A line-up must not be suggestive, so fillers should resemble the suspect in general description.

75. A. Inquest

An inquest is a summary inquiry by a prosecutor for persons arrested without warrant to determine if they should remain under custody and be charged in court.

76. B. The dangerous drug itself

In drug cases, the seized drug is the very body of the crime, which is why its identity and integrity must be preserved.

77. A. Rendering aid to any victim and securing the scene

First responders attend to life and safety, then protect and secure the scene to prevent contamination of evidence.

78. A. Made or burned

When the subject recognizes the surveillant, the cover is compromised and the agent is said to be made or burned.

79. C. Hot pursuit arrest

Rule 113, Section 5(b) allows arrest when an offense has just been committed and the officer has probable cause based on personal knowledge of facts that the person committed it.

80. D. Inadmissible against him

Under Article III, Section 12 of the Constitution, any confession obtained in violation of the rights of a person under investigation is inadmissible.

81. A. Cesare Lombroso

Lombroso, founder of the positivist school, proposed the born-criminal concept and atavism.

82. A. Classical school

The classical school, associated with Beccaria and Bentham, assumes free will and relies on rational deterrence.

83. D. Innovation

Innovators accept culturally approved goals but use illegitimate means to reach them.

84. B. Differential association theory

Sutherland's differential association theory holds that criminal behavior is learned through interaction in intimate personal groups.

85. C. Attachment

Hirschi's four bonds are attachment, commitment, involvement and belief.

86. D. A capable guardian

Cohen and Felson argued that crime occurs when motivated offenders and suitable targets converge without capable guardianship.

87. D. Secondary deviance

Secondary deviance is deviance that results from accepting a deviant label and the identity imposed by society's reaction.

88. B. Denial of injury

Sykes and Matza described denial of injury as minimizing or denying the harm caused by the offense.

89. C. Social disorganization theory

Their Chicago research linked crime to neighborhood conditions like poverty and residential instability rather than to group traits.

90. C. Mesomorph

Sheldon claimed muscular, athletic mesomorphs were the most prone to delinquent behavior.

91. D. Broken windows theory

Broken windows theory holds that visible disorder signals that no one cares, encouraging further disorder and crime.

92. C. Exempt from criminal liability but subject to an intervention program

A child 15 years of age or under at the time of the offense is exempt from criminal liability and undergoes intervention.

93. B. He may be held liable and undergo diversion or proceedings under the law

A child above 15 but below 18 who acted with discernment is not exempt and is processed under the law's diversion and juvenile justice provisions.

94. D. Republic Act 11131

RA 11131, the Philippine Criminology Profession Act of 2018, regulates the criminology profession and repealed RA 6506.

95. C. Slippery slope of gratuities

Small gratuities can create obligations that gradually lead to more serious misconduct, which is the slippery slope argument.

96. C. Noble cause corruption

Noble cause corruption is breaking the rules to achieve what the officer believes is a good end, such as convicting a guilty person.

97. B. Physiological needs

Maslow placed physiological needs such as food and shelter at the base of the hierarchy.

98. C. Victimology

Victimology studies victims, victimization patterns and the interaction between victims and offenders.

99. A. Differential opportunity theory

Differential opportunity theory explains that illegitimate opportunities, like legitimate ones, are unequally distributed.

100. C. Anomie

Anomie refers to a breakdown or absence of social norms that regulate behavior.

101. D. Bureau of Jail Management and Penology

RA 6975 created the BJMP under the DILG to supervise and control district, city and municipal jails.

102. A. A national penitentiary under the Bureau of Corrections

National prisoners serving sentences longer than three years are confined in BuCor institutions such as the New Bilibid Prison.

103. A. Six years

Offenders sentenced to a maximum term of imprisonment of more than six years are not eligible for probation.

104. B. Probation is granted by the court instead of imprisonment, while parole is release after serving part of the sentence

Probation is a judicial disposition that suspends execution of sentence, while parole is a conditional release after the minimum of an indeterminate sentence is served.

105. C. The minimum term

The Indeterminate Sentence Law allows the Board of Pardons and Parole to release a prisoner on parole after the minimum period has been served.

106. A. Amnesty

Under the 1987 Constitution, the President may grant amnesty only with the concurrence of a majority of all the members of Congress.

107. D. Pennsylvania system

The Pennsylvania or separate system isolated prisoners completely, believing solitude would lead to penitence.

108. B. Auburn system

The Auburn or congregate system combined collective silent labor by day with solitary confinement at night.

109. B. Mark system

Maconochie's mark system let prisoners earn marks toward release, an early form of indeterminate sentencing.

110. D. Conditional release on a ticket of leave under supervision

Crofton's system progressed inmates through stages ending in conditional release, a forerunner of modern parole.

111. D. John Howard

John Howard documented the conditions of prisons across Europe and pushed for reforms in sanitation and inmate treatment.

112. B. Incapacitation

Incapacitation removes the offender's ability to offend in society by confining him.

113. D. Restorative justice

Restorative justice focuses on repairing harm and restoring relationships among victim, offender and community.

114. D. Therapeutic community

A therapeutic community uses the residential group itself as the main agent of change, especially for substance users.

115. D. Reception and diagnostic center

The reception and diagnostic center studies new inmates to determine proper classification, security level and program.

116. A. It is deemed a waiver of the right to appeal

The law provides that filing an application for probation operates as a waiver of the right to appeal.

117. A. Quasi-recidivism

Article 160 punishes a person who commits a felony after final judgment and before or while serving sentence with the maximum period of the penalty for the new felony.

118. A. A habitual delinquent

Article 62 defines a habitual delinquent as one convicted a third time or oftener of specified crimes, including theft, within ten years of his last release or conviction.

119. A. To verify that all inmates are accounted for and detect escapes

Regular headcounts are a basic custodial control used to detect escapes and confirm inmate presence.

120. B. The provincial government

Provincial jails are under the supervision and control of the provincial government, unlike city and municipal jails under the BJMP.

Topics to review

• Criminological theories and ethics

• Criminal law and jurisprudence

• Law enforcement operations and investigation

• Forensic science and correctional administration

Online question banks and study resources

Criminology - Pass Harbor (Question bank)

Official PRC board information

Current PRC exam programs

Independent study material prepared by Board Exam Desk.